

VOCADA 001

PATENT

REMARKS

The §101 rejection has been addressed in the manner discussed during the Interview. In particular, the preamble of independent claim 17 has been amended to describe a “computer program stored in a computer-readable medium and executable by a computer for processing an enterprise message by performing” the recited steps. Conforming changes have been made in claims 18-24.

As also discussed during the Interview, the rejection of claims 1, 6-7, 9, 14-15, 17, 22-23 and 25 under §102(b) as being anticipated by Kepley et al has been addressed by clarifying the nature of the claimed “categorization data.” As explained during the Interview, the categorization data is (i) elicited from a user during an interactive session in which the voice message is received from the user, (ii) serves to classify the voice message according to its content, and (iii) specifies an association between the voice message and information maintained in a data system. (The slides presented during the Interview are attached).

Kepley et al describe the use of a data transport mechanism to deliver a voice message from one voice message system to another voice message system. As indicated in Figure 4 there, an address header is appended to a digitally encoded voice message to enable that header/voice message to be delivered as a “data file” between these systems. The reference does not disclose eliciting (from the user) data that classifies the voice message according to its content, let alone doing so “during an interactive session in which the voice message is received.”

“Categorizing” typically refers to assigning information into groups, classes or types. As the claims now positively recite, “categorization data” here refers to information that says something about the content of the voice message, not the manner in which the message is processed (e.g., routed). That “categorization data” relates to what the voice message is about – as opposed to where it is going or when it should be delivered – is evident from the other language in the claim, namely, that such categorization data must “specify associations between the voice message and information maintained in a data system.” The written description also makes this distinction clear by recognizing that message handling information (such as routing data) may “augment the categorization data,” but is not part of that data. (See, e.g., page 8, lines 27-31).

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As explained during the Interview and as now used in the claims, "categorization data" is user-elicited information that is used to classify the message according to its content. (The Examiner will also note that the original phrase "specifies associations between the enterprise message and information maintained in a data system" (claims 1, 17 and 25) has been amended to read "specifies at least one association between the voice message and information maintained in a data system" to clarify the association language and to remove the unnecessary limitation of "associations").

The prior art of record does not describe any such processing of an enterprise message that comprises a voice message and such categorization data. Thus, claims 1, 9, 17 and 25 are now deemed to describe patentable subject matter.

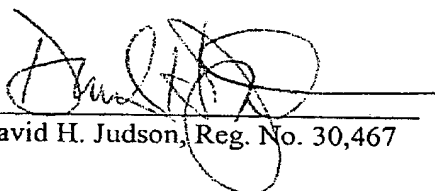
As the Examiner has requested, the written description has been amended to include a reference to the related application Serial No. 10/035,407, now U.S. Patent No. 6,778,644.

The undersigned hereby also resubmits the Power of Attorney that was submitted in September 2006 and that appointed the undersigned to take action in this case; the Examiner is reminded that a Change Of Correspondence Address also has been requested previously; all correspondence should now go to the address (as also set forth below) associated with Customer No. 50086.

All claims should now be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enterprise Message Creation

Enterprise Message

Voice Message

"I met Joe Smith today from GE and he indicated they will purchase \$1 million of widgets by Jan. 31. I also spent considerable time on problem x, which involves support..."
(Voice message)

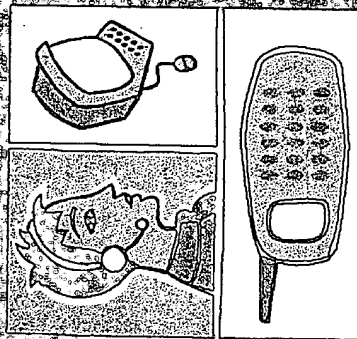
Categorization Data from User

Region = "West Coast" (data)

Customer = "GE" (data)

Revenue Size = "1 million" (data)

Process Enterprise Message



User records voice message...

"I met Joe Smith today..."

User categorizes message (eg)

- 1) System asks "Customer?"
- 1) User answers "GE"
- 2) System asks "Region?"
- 2) User answers "West Coast"
- 3) System asks "Revenue Size?"
- 3) User answers "1 million"



Process Enterprise Message

Enterprise Message

Voice Message

"I met Joe Smith today from GE and he indicated they will purchase \$1 million of widgets by Jan 31. I also spent considerable time on problem X, which involves support in (voice message)

Categorization Data from User

Region = "West Coast" (data)

Customer = "GE" (data)

Revenue Size = "1 million" (data)



Rules

If revenue size >= \$1 Million

If message about customer "GE"

If West Coast region

Actions

Send text message to VP, Sales

Update Forecasting Database

Send email to entire GE support team and provide a link to voice message if team members need further info

Send fax to West Coast Service Manager that GE deal is imminent